

Jeremiah Smith – Eastham Land Records 1650-1745

There is more than one Jeremiah Smith in the early Eastham records. This Jeremiah Smith first appeared in the Eastham records in 1672 when his cattle earmarks were recorded. He married Hannah Atwood in 1678. They had several children including a son Jeremiah Jr. in 1685. Jeremiah died in 1706 before the large land grants of the early 1700's. His son Jeremiah Jr. who married Abigail in 1711 did receive significant land grants. Therefore both Jeremiah and Jeremiah Jr. are included in this case study.

1703

Granted to Jeremiah Smith Sr., Joseph Myrick and Thomas Rogers and their heirs a parcel of meadow at the Town flats in the Middle Flat. The lot was next to the lot of Timothy Cole, Ebenezer Snow and Nathaniel Atkins. The dimensions indicate the parcel was about four acres. Bounds were indicated by stakes. PDF A278, M165.

1711

Granted to Jeremiah Smith Sr. and his heirs about four acres at the southwest end of Cedar Pond and next to land of Jonathan Linnell. Bounds were indicated by stones and marked trees. PDF T29.

Granted to Jeremiah Smith Jr. and his heirs about four acres at Rock Harbor neck on the southerly side of the way to Ensign Joseph Merrick's meadow. Bounds were indicated by marked trees. PDF T29.

Granted to Jeremiah Smith Jr. and his heirs about six acres for his wood lot northward of Second Brook and near the wood lot of Joseph Merrick Jr. Bounds were indicated by marked trees. PDF T29.

1712

Granted to Jeremiah Smith Jr. and his heirs two parcels of land. One parcel was about four acres on the northwest side of the Town Cove and next to land of Mr. Knowles. Bounds were indicated by stones. The other parcel was about one and one-quarter acres at Great Island at Billingsgate on the west side of land of Samuel Knowles. Bounds were indicated by stones marked J S. PDF T116.

1715

Granted to Jeremiah Smith Jr. and his heirs about twenty acres on the northerly side of the way that went to the meeting house and near land and house of Joseph Atwood and near land of Capt. Freeman. Bounds were indicated by stakes, stones and marked trees. PDF T223.

Granted to Jeremiah Smith Jr. and his heirs a wood lot on the northerly side of the cart way that went from James Robbins' house towards Billingsgate. The lot ran east one mile to the Backside Sea and north sixteen pole which would make the lot about thirty-two acres. A thirty foot wide way had to be maintained for the cart way that went from Stephen Atwood's towards Billingsgate. Bounds were indicated by marked trees. PDF T264.

1723

Meadow previously granted to Jeremiah Smith was found to be utterly destroyed and ruined by sand. To compensate for this loss of land Smith and heirs were granted a parcel of sedge ground on the Middle Flat next to land of John Taylor. The dimensions indicate the parcel was about five acres. Bounds were indicated by stakes. PDF T330.

The Eastham land owned by Jeremiah Smith and Jeremiah Smith Jr. or granted to their heirs described in these records amounts to about ninety-five acres. By 1745 twenty-four more Smiths received Eastham land grants.